

HUNSLET  
Rural District Council.



REPORT

OF

JOSEPH BUCK, ESQ.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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# ANNUAL REPORT, 1898.

## Thunslet Rural District Council.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1898, along with the Statistical Tables, A and B, of the Local Government Board, and Table C of the West Riding County Council, a perusal of which will give much information in a tabulated form.

### BIRTHS.

There have been registered during the year in this district 211 Births, 117 males and 94 females, or 10 more than in the preceding year; the Sub-registration District of Whitkirk (including Templenewsam, Oulton-cum-Woodlesford, and Thorp Stapleton) contributing 170, and that of Middleton 41. Estimating the population to the middle of 1898 at 6882 this gives a BIRTH RATE of 30·65 per thousand; that of 1897 being 29·68. There were 10 illegitimate births, 4 boys and 6 girls.

### DEATHS.

During the same period there have been registered 111 deaths, 56 males and 55 females. Of these Templenewsam and Thorp Stapleton contributed 32, Oulton-c-Woodlesford 54, and Middleton 25. This gives a DEATH RATE of 16·12 per thousand, a fairly satisfactory rate; but much higher than that of 1897 *viz.* 11·52. The mean for the decade 1880-89 was 18.

The following is a SUMMARY OF THE AGES at which death occurred.

Deaths under 1 year	29	}	39 under 5 years.
Deaths over 1 „ and under 5 years	10		
Deaths „ 5 „ „ „ 15 „	5	}	72 above 5 years.
Deaths „ 15 „ „ „ 25 „	4		
Deaths „ 25 „ „ „ 65 „	31		
Deaths „ 65 and upwards	32		

Total 111

Three of the deaths included in the above returns are of persons not belonging to the district. One, an infant born in Manchester; one, a miner killed at Waterloo Main pit, resident in Leeds, the third, a gentleman resident in London.

One person, aged 46, belonging to the district died in the Hunslet Workhouse.

### CAUSES OF DEATH.

The following are taken from Table A :—

Diphtheria	...	...	3
Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	1
Diarrhœa	...	...	8
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	1
Phthisis	...	...	5
Bronchitis	...	...	20
Pneumonia	...	...	
Pleurisy	...	...	
Heart Disease	...	..	11
Influenza	...	..	1
Injuries	...	...	6
All other causes	...	...	54

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Total 111

### INFANT MORTALITY.

There were registered 29 deaths of children under 1 year, being at the rate of 26 per cent. of the total number of deaths, and 13·7 per cent. of the births registered.

THE CAUSES OF DEATH WERE: Premature birth 12, Bronchitis &c. 6, Hydrocephalus 1, Diarrhœa 7, Specific Disease 1, Tabes Mesenterica 1, Dentition and Convulsions 1.

THE INFANT DEATH RATE (13·7 per cent. of the births registered) is much higher than that of 1897, which was 8·9; the mean for the decade 1880-89 being 13·1. The increased number of deaths from premature birth is chiefly responsible for the higher rate, and not actual sickness, except diarrhœa, which is somewhat higher.

### ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

There were only 5 deaths registered from infectious diseases : Diphtheria 3, 1 in Templenewsam, and 2 in Middleton; Typhoid Fever 1, in Templenewsam; Measles 1, in Oulton-c-Woodlesford.



The death rate from Zymotic causes is  $\cdot 72$  per thousand, which though a little higher than  $\cdot 44$  in 1897, is highly satisfactory, and compares very favourably with  $2\cdot 3$ , the mean for the ten years 1880-89.

There were only 23 cases of INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, and 1 unnotified, (the average for the preceding 8 years, 1890-97, being 33). Of these Templenewsam and Thorp Stapleton contributed 11, Scarlatina 4, Diphtheria 4, Typhoid 3; Oulton-c-Woodlesford, 6; Scarlatina 1, Typhoid 3, Erysipelas 2; Middleton 7; Scarlatina 2, Diphtheria 2, Typhoid 1, Erysipelas 2.

### SCARLATINA.

For the second year in succession, I have the pleasure to record there has been no death from this disease. Of the 4 cases at Templenewsam, two occurred in one house at Thorp Stapleton, where the first case was said to be measles by the mother, and was not discovered until five weeks after, when the medical man called in to see the second child found the former peeling; in the third and fourth cases the disease was probably contracted at Garforth and Crossgates respectively. The case at Oulton-c-Woodlesford occurred at Woodlesford Vicarage, and no cause can be assigned for the infection, except that the child attended school at Rothwell where the disease was somewhat prevalent. One case at Middleton was not notified, but was discovered through private information.

In this case 2 children were sent to school from the infected house, during the peeling stage. The other case occurred in a female, aged 20, at Low Grange, just beyond the City boundary, and there can be little doubt that as she worked in Leeds, it had been contracted there.

### TYPHOID FEVER.

Of the 7 cases notified, 3 occurred in Templenewsam, 3 in Oulton-c-Woodlesford and one in Middleton. The 3 cases in Templenewsam occurred at Halton at different times of the year, and were of sporadic nature. The three cases in Oulton-c-Woodlesford occurred at Alma place, West Street, Woodlesford, two in one house. The property in this district is in a very insanitary condition and overcrowding exists to a very great extent. The subject was brought before the Council at the time, and though urgent recommendations were made to the owners and notices sent out, no steps, as yet, have been taken to abate the nuisances.

I cannot too strongly urge upon the Council the necessity of taking strong measures with regard to this district unless the necessary improvements are speedily carried out.

There was only 1 case notified at Middleton, in a house consisting of kitchen, scullery and 1 bedroom, at Windy hill, occupied by father, mother, and 7 children.

### DIPHTHERIA.

Six cases were notified, 4 in Templenewsam, with one death, and 2 in Middleton, both of which died. There were no cases in Oulton-c-Woodlesford. Of the 4 cases in Templenewsam, one occurred at Hermon Terrace, where an open dyke, carrying sewage, runs on the opposite side of the road, and near which children are apt to play ; 2 cases occurred at Graveleythorp, Halton, where no sanitary defect could be found, but the fourth case at Halton Hill, was traceable to immediate infection from one of the latter, with whom she was in company at chapel 2 days previous to notification being sent. Of the 2 cases at Middleton one occurred at Windy hill in a child attending the Hunslet Carr Board School, and the other in a house occupying an isolated position near Middleton Grange. No sanitary defects were detected.

### MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.

An Epidemic of Measles occurred at Colton, a hamlet in the Templenewsam district, in March, and the school was closed, on my recommendation, for a period of 3 weeks, there being no further extension to neighbouring villages. This was the subject of a special report at the time. Only 1 death was registered from this cause at Oulton-c-Woodlesford. No deaths were registered from whooping cough during the year.

### ERYSIPELAS.

4 cases were notified, 2 in Oulton-c-Woodlesford and 2 in Middleton, all of a very trivial nature. There were no deaths registered.

### DIARRHŒA.

This disease was prevalent during the summer and early autumn months, all the deaths occurring during the latter half of the year. There were 8 deaths, 2 in Templenewsam and 6 in Oulton-c-Woodlesford ; 7 were of children under 12 months and 1 of a person aged 93.



### INQUESTS.

There were 7 inquests held, 3 in Templenewsam, 2 in Oulton-c-Woodlesford, and 2 in Middleton, 6 deaths being due to injuries and drowning, and one to natural causes.

### HOSPITAL FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

This matter has made much progress during the year. The Council, along with a neighbouring Council, petitioned the West Riding County Council to form a hospital district under Lord Thring's Act of 1893, with the result that an inquiry was held by that body in November, at Rothwell, into the subject matter thereof, and as no opposition was offered there is every probability of this long standing question coming to satisfactory settlement during the ensuing year.

### WATER SUPPLY.

A Local Government Board Inquiry was held in July, into the subject of the Newsam Green and Thorp Stapleton water supply (which had, for some time, been condemned by me) and the necessity for a wholesome supply to these hamlets.

The necessary powers were granted, and the work, at the present time, is well in hand.

The cottages at West View, Middleton, have also been supplied with water.

On the completion of the Newsam Green work, the whole of the Council's District, excepting a few isolated houses, will have an ample and wholesome supply of water, and the Council may be congratulated on having finally disposed of one of the most dangerous sources of disease, *viz.*, contaminated and scanty water supplies.

There has been an extension of 440 yds. of pipes at Middleton, 150 yds. at Whitkirk, and 57 yds. at Woodlesford.

### SEWERAGE AND SANITARY WORK.

Good drainage is the necessary corollary of an abundant water supply, and I am glad to record that good progress has been made in this direction.

The scheme for the drainage of the upper portion of Middleton, including tanks for the bacteriological treatment of the sewage has been completed, and I trust that the remaining portion at Belleisle will not long be delayed.

A scheme for the extension of the sewers to Holly Shaw estate, Whitkirk, including Hermon Terrace, is under consideration.

With regard to the Halton sewage works, I am of opinion, as pointed out in my report of 1897, that regular attention and careful supervision are necessary for the success of these works, and that satisfactory results will not be obtained until more time and labour are spent upon them. At Woodlesford 74 yards of new sewers have been added in main roads, and 135 yards in new streets.

There have been 38 nuisances reported during 1898, with 13 standing over from the preceding year; of these, 39 have been abated.

Legal proceedings have been taken in one case.

36 closets have been constructed, 19 water closets and 17 ashes pit privies.

I would, at this point, urge upon the Council the necessity for more stringency in the matter of the construction, covering in, and repairs of ashes pits in every part of the district.

44 new houses have been built during the year, yet there is a great demand in some parts of the district, especially Oulton-c-Woodlesford, for artizans' dwellings, 3 cases of overcrowding, (and many more on the verge) having been reported in this quarter.

I regret to state that there are signs of a falling away in the high standard of efficiency in vaccination which has obtained in this district since the introduction of the new, but mischievous Vaccination Act.

I again beg to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued courtesy and co-operation during the past year.

(Signed),

**JOSEPH BUCK,**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

*Rothwell, near Leeds,*

*January, 1899.*



# TABLE A.

**TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1898, in the Hunslet Rural District, Classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.**

MEMORANDUM.—The deaths which have been classified in this Table, and summed up in the horizontal line of 'Totals,' are the whole of those registered as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District ; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be.

Names of Localities.  (Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.	Mortality from all causes at subjoined ages.							Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing deaths of children under five years of age.														
	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Smallpox	Diphtheria	Enteric or Typhoid	Erysipelas	Measles	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Influenza	Injuries	All Other Diseases	TOTAL.	
Templenewsam and Thorp Stapleton	32	9	3	3	1	10	6						2			3					7	12
								Under 5..														
								5 upwards	1	1				1	2	2	1			3	9	20
Oulton-c- Woodlesford.	54	14	3	2	3	13	19					1	5			2				1	8	17
								Under 5..														
								5 upwards					1		3	10	5			1	17	37
Middleton.	25	6	4	0	0	8	7		2												8	10
								Under 5..														
								5 upwards								3	5			1	6	15
Totals.	111	29	10	5	4	31	32		2			1	7			5				1	23	39
								Under 5..														
								5 upwards	1	1			1	1	5	15	11			5	32	72

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

	Mortality from all causes at Subjoined Ages.				Mortality from Subjoined Cases.			
	Under 1 Year	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Injuries	All other Diseases	Total
Deaths occurring outside the District among Persons belonging thereto ... ..			1				1	1
Deaths occurring within the District among Persons not belonging thereto ... ..	1		1	1	1	1	1	3

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this return relates :

Area in Acres, 6,583.  
Population (1891), 6,120.  
Population (Estimated to Middle of 1898), 6,882.

# TABLE B.

Table of Population, Births, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1898 in the Hunslet Rural District; Classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.						Number of such cases removed from their homes in the several localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital.
	Last Census.	Estimated to middle of 1898.		Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous	Enteric or Typhoid	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas
TEMPLENEWSAM and THORP STAPLETON	2108	6882	170	Under 5 5 upwards	4 4			3		
OULTON-c-WOODLESFORD.	2776			Under 5 5 upwards	1			3		2
MIDDLETON ...	1236		41	Under 5 5 upwards	2	2		1		2
TOTALS ...	6120	6882	211	Under 5 5 upwards	7 4	2		7		4

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Diseases" is compulsory in the District? *Yes.* Since when? *January 1st, 1890.* Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the column with blank headings the names of any other diseases that are notifiable in the district, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the district. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; or if not within the District, state where it is situated. *School House at Waterloo, immediately outside Hunslet boundary, situated in Rothwell, for Small Pox cases only.*



## TABLE C. 1898.

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### Hunslet Rural Sanitary District.

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Medical Officer of Health, JOSEPH BUCK.

Sanitary Inspector, WILLIAM WHITEHEAD.

#### Water supply—

Quality—Good. Action on Lead—None. Any extensions or change during 1898? Middleton 440 yards, Whitkirk 150 yards, Woodlesford 57 yards. Any inadequacy in any part? Supply to Newsam Green and Thorp Stapleton in progress.

#### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—

Extensions or Improvements during 1898—Middleton 1210 yds. of new sewers with filtration works, Woodlesford 74 yds. in main roads, 135 yds. in new streets.

Any inadequacy in any part? West Street, Woodlesford.

#### Scavenging—

Are the Privy-Middens, &c., cleansed by Sanitary staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants?—Contractors.

If scavenging undertaken by District Council, what was the annual cost during 1898. £334 6s. 4d.

Adoptive Acts—

*Parts Adopted and date.*

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890—Not adopted.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 „

What was the amount paid to practitioners under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act during 1898?—£2 12s. 6d.

By-Laws—Any adopted or sanctioned during 1898?—No.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, Etc.	No.		General Condition.	Legal Proceedings. (If any)	
	Registered	Inspected			
Common Lodging Houses	nil	29 Periodically	Very few Contraventions. Satisfactory.		
Canal Boats ...	...				
Slaughter Houses	7				
Bakehouses ...	...		nil		Not satisfac- tory. Fairly satisfac- tory.
{ Dairies	...		10		
{ Cowsheds	...		49		
{ Milkshops	...		2		
Offensive Trades	...	nil			

Isolation Hospital—For small pox only

Disinfecting Apparatus—None.

Compensation paid for infected articles destroyed during 1898—None.

Dwellings—Number of houses built during 1898—44. General character—Terrace.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses?—3 cases

Any overcrowding of homes *on area*?—No.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890—No.

Geology—Nature of Soil—Varies in different parts.

## Miscellaneous—

Is House-to-House Inspection systematically made?—Intermittently.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1897—13. At close of 1898—12.

Reported during 1898—38; Abated during 1898—39.

Total No. of Summonses or other Legal Proceedings—One.

No. of Sink wastes disconnected during 1898,—2.

„ „ trapped „ 2. new constructed, 57.

No. of Closets constructed during 1898—36. Kinds—19 W.C.  
17 Ashpit Privies,

Any diseases peculiarly endemic in the district?—No.

Any information as to number of deaths from cancer of all kinds during 1898?—8 deaths.

Any information as to number of deaths from Tabes Mesenterica? 2 deaths, also Phthisis 3 deaths, other Tubercular disease, 2 deaths.

Vaccination—General efficiency. High standard, but signs of falling away since passing of new Act.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters?

Seizure of Unsound Food,—Nil.

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Acts,—Nil.

Smoke Abatement—No. of observations taken—Almost daily.

Schools—No. in District—5. No. closed on account of outbreaks of disease—1, (Measles). Total duration of closure from this cause—3 weeks.

Burial Grounds—No. in District—3. Any need for extension—No.

Births—Males 117, Females 94, Total 211.

Number illegitimate, included in the above—10, (4 boys and 6 girls)

Any information as to Still Births,—Incomplete.



Deaths—Males 56, Females 55, Total 111.

Number uncertified, included in the above—None.

Rateable Value as stated in Valuation list £39,508. Assessable value under Public Health Act, £28,762. Rate in the £ 1897,  $9\frac{3}{4}$ d. ( $6\frac{3}{4}$ d. Highways, 3d. general purposes).

Sanitary Requirements of District, and Suggestions of Medical Officer of Health :—

Sewage Scheme for Belle Isle, Middleton.

Sanitary Improvements at West Street, Woodlesford.

Enforcement of Covered in Ashes pits.

Adoption of Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

